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A. W. Hoffmeister

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before his death. His life was a splendid example of what a man of noble purpose and resolute will can accomplish. His kindly disposition and strict integrity endeared him to all with whom he came in contact, and while his loss is greatly to be deplored, it is a satisfaction to reflect on the wonderful amount of labor he performed and the great good he did during his life. Such a career should be an incentive to nobler effort for the alleviation of suffering humanity and the advancement of knowledge.

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HON. NORMAN EVERSON, State Senator in the sessions commencing at Iowa City, December 2, 1850, and December 6, 1852, died at his residence in Washington, Iowa, May 15. He was born on a farm in the town of Vermont, Oneida County, New York, December 27, 1815. At the early age of fourteen, with his father's consent he started out—a poor boy—to make his own way in the world. He had a grand ambition for a boy of that age, succeeding in working his way into and through Hamilton College, near Utica, New York. He graduated in 1837. After this he taught school in Elizaville and Cynthia, Kentucky, where he made the acquaintance of Abraham Lincoln, “a tall, awkward, gangling attorney,” who then “gave no special promise of filling the most splendid niche in American history.” He came to Washington, Iowa, in 1841, and resided there until his death. He was very successful as a lawyer and business man, acquiring a handsome fortune by hard work, and becoming one of the leading men of the town and county as well as of that section of the State. “He filled all sorts of positions because people trusted him. Time and again he was alderman and mayor, once a State Senator, an early post-master, carrying the mail in his capacious hat,—a habit he kept up ever afterwards,—letters, papers, notes, bills, law-papers, and all that queer miscellany went into his hat. He seemed to distrust pockets. It was the queerest mail delivery! The Squire would slowly walk around the park with about a bushel of mail more or less, in his hat, unloading at each door, and sometimes a girl or youth would meet him and ask if there was a letter for them,—love-letters, of course,—and he’d salaam to uncover without spilling, and fish out the missive with a comical grimace, and go his way, a sort of combination of Uncle Sam and Santa Claus. In later years he’d laugh and chuckle as memories of that amusing service came back to him.” The old Legislative Journals show that he was a busy and useful Senator. He was “a genuine man, hating injustice and shams and cruelty,—indignant at wrong, disloyalty and treason.” He visited Europe in 1878, but came home better than ever pleased with his adopted State. *The Washington Press* devotes two columns to an estimate of his career, from which we have condensed this notice.

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DR. A. W. HOFFMEISTER, died at his residence in Fort Madison, May 16. He was born at Altnau, in the Hartz Mountains, Kingdom of Hanover, June 14, 1827. He received a liberal education, graduating from the college at Clausthal, with the highest honors of his class, in 1846. After a two year's course in chemistry he emigrated with his father's family to this country. They settled in St. Louis, where he devoted a year to the study of the English language. He then went to California, where he remained two years. Returning to St. Louis in 1851, he entered a medical college, from which he graduated in 1854. He then settled in Fort Madison and began the practice of his profession in which he won distinguished success. He was commissioned Surgeon of the eighth Iowa Infantry in 1862, and was with it during

the period of its most arduous service. He won the confidence and affectionate regard of the soldiers, and the survivors of that famous command revere his memory. Dr. Hoffmeister, aside from his medical knowledge, was one of the most cultured men in our State. He was well informed in botany, geology, paleontology, and natural history. "He left the world better than he found it." We have condensed this notice from one of some length, by his life-long friend, Dr. J. M. Shaffer, which appeared in *The Gale City*, of Keokuk, May 20, 1896.

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B. F. MILLER, whose death occurred at Webster City, May, 31, 1896, was born in the Shenandoah Valley, Virginia, February 11, 1833. He was of Scotch-English descent and a man of sterling worth. He was married to Rebecca Whitlock, September 5, 1859. One son, Homer A., and one daughter, now Mrs. Grace Brown, with four grand children are left to mourn his death. Mr. Miller was an example of a class of men, who, without early advantages, win success by unaided effort. Beginning at an early age to work for low wages, by sagacity and business management he became an honored business man, helpful to his friends and a benefit to the community. In early business life, he was for a time a merchant. In 1867 he removed from Indiana to Webster City, where he engaged in the banking business in which he was successful, becoming a leading citizen of Hamilton county. While attending the Columbian Exposition in 1893 he contracted a cold which resulted in pneumonia, and later in Bright's disease, from which he died.

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COL. EDWIN F. HOOKER, a former resident of Iowa, died in Omaha, Nebraska, June, 5, 1896, at the age of 83. He came from his former home, Columbus, Ohio, to Des Moines, in 1855, to assume the management of the Western Stage Company. The building of railroads in the east caused the stage business to push westward and Mr. Hooker was sent to Des Moines as manager of the offices of the Company. He thus became identified with the interests of Iowa. For ten years he was a leading citizen of Des Moines. His residence was where the Savery House now stands. When railroads were built, and the stage business was pushed westward, Col. Hooker went farther west, continuing the management of stage affairs until the business was largely superceded by railroads in the far west. He then removed from the Pacific coast and settled in Omaha where he engaged in railroading, as general agent for a time and then as stock agent. He was a very popular man and had a wide acquaintance. Several years ago, on account of advancing age he gave up active business. His remains were brought to Des Moines for interment.

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W. J. YOUNG, died at Clinton, Iowa, June, 8, 1896. He was born in Belfast, Ireland, in 1827, and came to Clinton in 1858. Before coming to Iowa he was general freight agent of the Cincinnati, Logansport and Chicago railway. In August, 1866, he erected a large saw-mill, which later was enlarged until it was said to be the largest mill in the world. He did an extensive business and employed many men. He was engaged in rafting and introduced the present method of towing rafts. He was also engaged in banking and had a wide range of business. His great financial success was due to indomitable energy and perseverance. His donations to public purposes in Clinton were many, and he was a liberal contributor to private charities. Among his public gifts the following may be mentioned: The Y. M. C. A. building and grounds, valued at

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